

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/669,051	FRANANO, NICOLAS F.
	Examiner Dr. Kailash C. Srivastava	Art Unit 1655

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 11/03/2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 56,57,60-63,65,66,68 and 70-78.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 121503dup of 82704
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Examiner's /Comments

1. Applicants' response and amendment filed 03 November 2005 to Office Action mailed 12 August 2005 is acknowledged and entered.

CLAIMS STATUS

2. Claims 1-55, 58-59, 64, 67 and 69 are cancelled.
3. Claims 68 is amended.
4. Claims 56-57, 60-63, 65-66, 68 and 70-78 are pending and examined on merits.
5. In view of applicant's arguments and amendments filed 03 November 2005 to Office Action mailed 12 August 2005, Examiner herewith withdraws:
 - o Objection to specification,
 - o Rejections to claims 67-68 and 78 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph;
 - o Anticipatory rejection to claims 56-63, 65 and 67-68 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (a) as anticipated by Dev et al (U.S. Patent 5,944,710);
 - o Anticipatory rejection to claims 56, 60-61, 65 and 67 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as anticipated by Bini (U.S. Patent 5,922,322); and
 - o Obviousness rejection to claims 56-57, 60-63, 65-68 and 70-78 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Bini (U.S. Patent 5,922,322) in view of Dev et al (U.S. Patent 5,944,710).

in the Office Action cited *supra*.

EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

6. The following is Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art are:

Bini (U.S. Patent 5,922,322)
Dev et al (U.S. Patent 5,944,710).

The presently claimed invention of treating an obstructed artery or vein by administering lactase is not taught or fairly suggested by the references of record because elastase enlarges the diameter of the artery or vein rather than only enlarging the lumen.

Any comments considered necessary by applicants must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Claims 56-57, 60-63, 65-66, 68 and 70-78 are allowed.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kailash C. Srivastava whose telephone number is (571) 272-0923. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. (Eastern Standard or Daylight Savings Time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Terry McKelvey, can be reached on (571)-272-0775 Monday through Friday 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (i.e., PAIR) system. Status information for the published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (i.e., EBC) at: (866)-217-9197 (toll-free). Alternatively, status inquiries should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Kailash C. Srivastava, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1655
(571) 272-0923

November 17, 2005

R. Gitomer
RALPH GITOMER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1200